

Share!

Week of Prayer for Home Missions  
March 5-12, 1978  
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering -  
National Goal \$13,000,000

### Easter Offering

## Home Missions Goal Asks One Dollar Each

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — "Share!" is the challenge to Southern Baptists in the 1978 edition of the annual Week of Prayer and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions.

The emphasis reminds Southern Baptists to "Share" their service, prayer, and money for Bold Mission Thrust in the United States.

Prayer activities during March 5-12 and the Easter Offering focus on congregationalizing and evangelizing, the Home Mission Board's two-prong strategy for sharing the gospel with every person in the home territory.

The emphasis gives every church member an annual update on home missions. The offering provides slightly over half the funding for home missions. The other half is given week by week through the Cooperative Program.

Goal for the Easter Offering is \$13,000,000. The goal was deliberately set for a whopping 21 percent increase over last year's in order to provide two million dollars for Bold Mission projects. The goal only adds up to about one dollar per Southern Baptist, according to statistics.

The first \$9,163,000 of the offering is earmarked for basic support of 2,839 home missionaries and their field

ministries in 50 states and the American territories. Basic operations covered, the next \$1,837,000 will finance special projects, many of which relate to Bold Mission Thrust.

For example, \$165,000 will help fund the computerized process known as Volunteer Involvement in Missions, linking short-term volunteers with the appropriate mission project. Missionaries will get a raise from a \$300,000 allocation. Metropolitan evangelism crusades will be backed by \$30,000, and \$90,000 will fund mass media campaigns in Bold Mission Thrust.

All funds beyond the \$11,000,000 mark will be spent on evangelism and congregation - planting projects. Approximately \$500,000 will help pave the way for Mission Service Corps workers. Although Mission Service Corps volunteers pay their own way, on-site expenditures will often be needed to facilitate their work.

If the goal of \$13,000,000 is achieved, \$2,000,000 will be applied to the Mission Service Corps and other Bold Mission Thrust projects. If the offering falls short of the goal, these same two categories will be cut.

WMU leaders, including Executive Director Carolyn Weatherford, have urged Baptists who have never before

participated in a home missions offering to give at least one dollar to this campaign. "We need a broadened base of involvement to reach this goal and the greater objectives of Bold Mission Thrust," she said. "This is a task that every Southern Baptist needs to share in."

Woman's Missionary Union organizations will be sponsoring week-long prayer meetings during March 5-12. Prayer and study sessions will be built around Romans 12:6-8, concerning the Christian's obligation to share talent, work and resources under the grace of (Continued on page 2)

## HMB Names Consultant To Aid Women's Witness

ATLANTA (BP) — The first national evangelism consultant for women has been named by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Laura Fry, 29, of Miami Beach, will work in this newly established position throughout the U.S., equipping women to share Christ from a woman's viewpoint.

Ms. Fry, appointed to missionary status during the February meeting of the board's directors, will begin Feb. 20 and work from her home in Atlanta.

"As a national consultant for women in evangelism," said her supervisor, Frank Crumpler, director of the board's evangelism planning and associational services, "Laura will help women know what's available from the evangelism section. She will share with women what we've developed in terms of resources and personnel available and ways of personal evangelism and witnessing."

"I see my job as equipping women from a woman's vantage point in sharing their faith," said Ms. Fry. "But when you're talking about women you're talking about a broad category

### Membership 13,083,199

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptist Convention church membership topped 13 million for the first time in the denomination's history in the 1976-77 year, but losses were recorded in the number of baptisms and in en-

rollment for Sunday School, church training, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood.

The latest statistical reports show that church music was the only church program organization to experience a gain during 1976-77 and that total membership, number of SBC churches, mission gifts and total receipts also increased. SBC foreign mission work, not counted in SBC statistics, reported increases in membership, baptisms and churches.

The annual statistical report, compiled by the research services department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, was taken from reports of 34,849 Southern Baptist churches.

The total number of churches in the SBC increased by 0.5 percent, to 35,255, an increase of 182. The total includes 406 nonreporting churches.

Church membership in the SBC went up 1.2 percent, 160,594, to 13,083,199. Resident membership was reported to us 9,443,431.

Baptisms in the SBC dropped by 10.1 percent, a decrease of 38,806. The 345,690 baptisms was the lowest number in the SBC since 1949, but not as low as the 342,201 projected for 1976-77 in a recent report.

Total receipts for the convention increased by 9.2 percent, more than \$151 million, to a total of \$1.8 billion. Mission gifts went up by 10.3 percent, almost \$27 million, to a total of nearly \$290 million.

Porter W. Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, said he was "encouraged by the continued climb in churches and the gain in membership but disturbed over the 10 percent drop in baptisms for the year."

Routh said "concern for Bold Mission Thrust is demonstrated by total missions gifts of \$290 million, with the percent of the collection plate dollar (Continued on page 3)

## Baptist, Jew Agree On Evangelism Packaging

By Carol Franklin

WASHINGTON (BP) — Jimmy Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and a Jewish leader agreed on the need for ethical evangelism but disagreed on the "Jews for Jesus" movement during taping of ABC-TV's network program, "Directions."

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, national director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, expressed the concern of the Jewish community for the tactics used by the Jews for Jesus.

"There's a genuine sense of moral offense at the methods and tactics used by many in the Jews for Jesus movement," Tanenbaum said. "They present themselves to Jewish young people, as another sect of Judaism ... That's a deception and a fraud."

"I think frankly there's a responsibility among Christian leaders to try to indicate that ... misrepresenting and violating the ... things Jews hold sacred for purposes which are not really Jewish purposes needs to be ... conformed to some higher standards," Tanenbaum asserted.

Allen agreed with Tanenbaum that deception in evangelism is immoral. "I don't think we would dissent about the matter of packaging truthfully who

you are or not deceiving people about what you're up to," Allen said.

"But to announce that you, out of your Jewish understandings, have come to accept Jesus as Messiah is really in tune with the stream of who we think Jesus is as the Promised One and as the Returning One," Allen said in reference to his viewpoint on Jews for Jesus. "So we would dissent probably about the legitimacy of that role but agree about the packaging and being open."

Tanenbaum emphasized, "I would respect (Jews for Jesus) as I do Dr. Allen or other evangelical Christians (Continued on page 5)

## President Carter May Speak At Rally

ATLANTA (BP) — Plans have taken shape for a National Conference of Baptist Men in Atlanta, June 16, at which President Jimmy Carter is the invited speaker.

The lay meeting, scheduled the day following the three-day, 121st Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, features breakfasts for 19 vocational groups in 11 Atlanta hotels and the World Congress Center, climaxed by a 90-minute rally at the 16,500-seat Omni Coliseum.

Glendon McCullough, executive director of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, sponsor of the men's conference, said a concert by an 800-voice choir of Southern Baptist men and boys from the Southeast, will open the rally which features Carter.

Paul C. McCommon, director of the music department for the Georgia Baptist Convention, is supervising recruitment of the choir and will direct it.

Open to Southern Baptist pastors and wives as well as lay couples, the meeting is one of a series of projects the Brotherhood Commission will sponsor during the next two years to interest Southern Baptists in mission opportunities, McCullough said.

Registration fee for the conference, including the breakfast and rally, is \$12.50. Admission to either or both events is by registration receipt only, McCullough said.

The four-fold purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for communicating the values of lay involvement in the Christian movement; show that Southern Baptists represent a broad spectrum of backgrounds vocationally, ethnically, culturally, and economically; make Southern Baptists aware of ways that lay persons share their Christian faith through their vocations; and emphasize forcefully the urgency of involving lay persons in missions.

At the breakfasts, scheduled to start at 7 a.m., nationally known Southern Baptist lay persons will tell how they share their Christian faith through their professions.

The breakfast groups are for Baptists in agriculture, the arts, business and professional positions, church-related vocations, communications, education, engineering, government, health services, law enforcement, legal professions, management, military, retirement, sales, positions requiring technical skills, sports, transportation, and young adults in search of a vocation for service.

McCullough said a person may register for the conference by sending name, address and preferred breakfast group and a check for \$12.50 to the Brotherhood Commission, 1548 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tenn. 38104.

He encourages persons planning to attend the conference to arrive early and include sessions of the SBC on their schedule. Only 17 percent of the messengers to the 1977 convention were lay people, McCullough reminded. He expressed the hope the men's conference would increase the percentage to 30.



### Pollard Preaches By Sea Of Galilee

Frank Pollard, "The Baptist Hour" host, stands on the shore of the Sea of Galilee to record the first of a series of "Baptist Hour" sermons from Israel and the Bible lands. The program, produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, is being broadcast in stereo. During this year it will come to listeners from the Bible lands as part of efforts to update and enhance it. "The Baptist Hour" is believed to be the first syndicated religious radio show which has originated from Israel. Pollard is pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss. The first Baptist Hour program recorded in Israel was aired February 12. (See Page 5 for "Baptist Hour" broadcast time.) — Radio-TV Commission photo.

### Volunteer Missions

## Committee To Match People, Projects

A Mississippi Volunteers-in-Missions Committee has been appointed to dispense information about short term volunteer mission projects, home and foreign, and to correlate volunteers with the projects.

Foy Rogers, director, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, is chairman. Paul Harrell, director, Brotherhood Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and Marjean Patterson, state WMU director, are working with him.

If you or your church want to serve in a volunteer mission project and would like to know where you are needed, you should contact one of these at Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Or contact the Home or Foreign Mission Board for specific information.

First Baptist Church and Hinds Association are sponsoring a workshop April 18 and 19 that would present information on needs for volunteer mission projects. Further details will be announced later.

Already many Mississippi churches have chosen or are already taking part in such projects. This week a group from Attala County is in California to begin building a church. A group from Grenada has just returned from Bar-

bados. Carpenters are going from Wayne County to Ecuador. Young people and adults and Pastor James Yates of Yazoo City plan to go to two different areas of West Virginia. Stories on all of these will appear in later issues of the Baptist Record.

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The Volunteers-in-Missions Committee at lunch last Friday met with representatives of Hinds-Madison Association and First Church, Jackson to plan an April workshop that will offer information on volunteer mission projects. Clockwise around the table are Doug Tipps, Fred Tarpley, Paul Harrell, Marjean Patterson, and Foy Rogers.

## Piland Succeeds Washburn

By Charles Willis

NASHVILLE (BP) — Harry M. Piland, minister of education for First Baptist Church, Houston, since 1973, has been elected director of the Baptist Sunday School Board's Sunday School department, effective February 27.

Piland, 49, succeeds A. V. Washburn, who retired in August 1977 following 20 years as secretary of the Sunday School department. He had (Continued on page 2)



## HMB Names Consultant

(Continued from page 1)

Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union in Birmingham, Ala., as a preliminary planning step in developing her role. WMU personnel said they were pleased to have this kind of resource person for evangelism available.

"Although I'm not a 'women's liber'ber', I do want to get involved in some women's groups such as the President's Women's Council and find out what the everyday woman's needs are and where she is so that we can give Christian women the tools to witness to other women," she declared.

"I want to show women that they don't just have to hand out clothes or food on Thanksgiving... they can do more. 'Sometimes women give a cup of water in Christ's name and they don't know what else to do... what else to say. I want to teach them what to do and say to witness to other women.'"

Ms. Fry has been involved in missions since 1970 when she served as a summer missionary with missionary Bob Tremaine, then based in Worcester, Mass.

Before accepting the Home Mission Board appointment, she worked in Christian social ministries as a US-2 missionary in Miami Beach.

A graduate of Southern Illinois University and Gordon-Conwell Seminary, she holds a master of religious education in social work from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. She is a native of Duquoin, Ill., and is single.

Ms. Fry, who is not ordained and does not plan to be, sees the possibility that pastors and evangelism workers throughout the country might resent the fact that she, a woman, was appointed to work in evangelism.

To counter that, she maintains, "I will work as a resource person, rather than as someone whom Southern Baptists have commissioned to go out and evangelize all the women in the country. 'I will work through state evangelism directors, youth directors — through the regular evangelism channels.'"

## Mississippians Appointed



Mr. and Mrs. Miller

ATLANTA (BP) — The Home Mission Board appointed 27 persons to mission service in its February meeting. They include seven career missionaries, 12 missionary associates and eight pastors receiving financial aid. These included two Mississippi natives; David Miller and Edward Richardson.

Named missionaries were: Thomas and Romelia Adams of Des Moines, Ill.; Barbara Casteel of Harlingen, Tex.; David and Linda Miller of New Orleans; and Pete and Pam Owen of Denton, Texas.

The Millers will serve in Denver, where he will be director of weekday ministries. He has served as a church extension missionary for the board and as pastor for churches in Mississippi and Florida. A native of Pascagoula, Miss., he is a graduate of Mobile College and holds a master of religious education degree from New Orleans Seminary.

Named associates: Lincoln and Lillian Bingham of Louisville, Ky.; Bill and Lucille McDaniel of San Antonio, Texas; Frank and Olga Medina of Carpentersville, Ill.; Edward and Imogene Richardson of Puerto Rico; Daniel and Elvira Sotelo of Fresno, Calif.; and John and Mary Jean Witte of Bulverde, Tex.

The Adams will serve in Crystal Lake, Ill., where he will be church extension director of the Fox Valley Association.

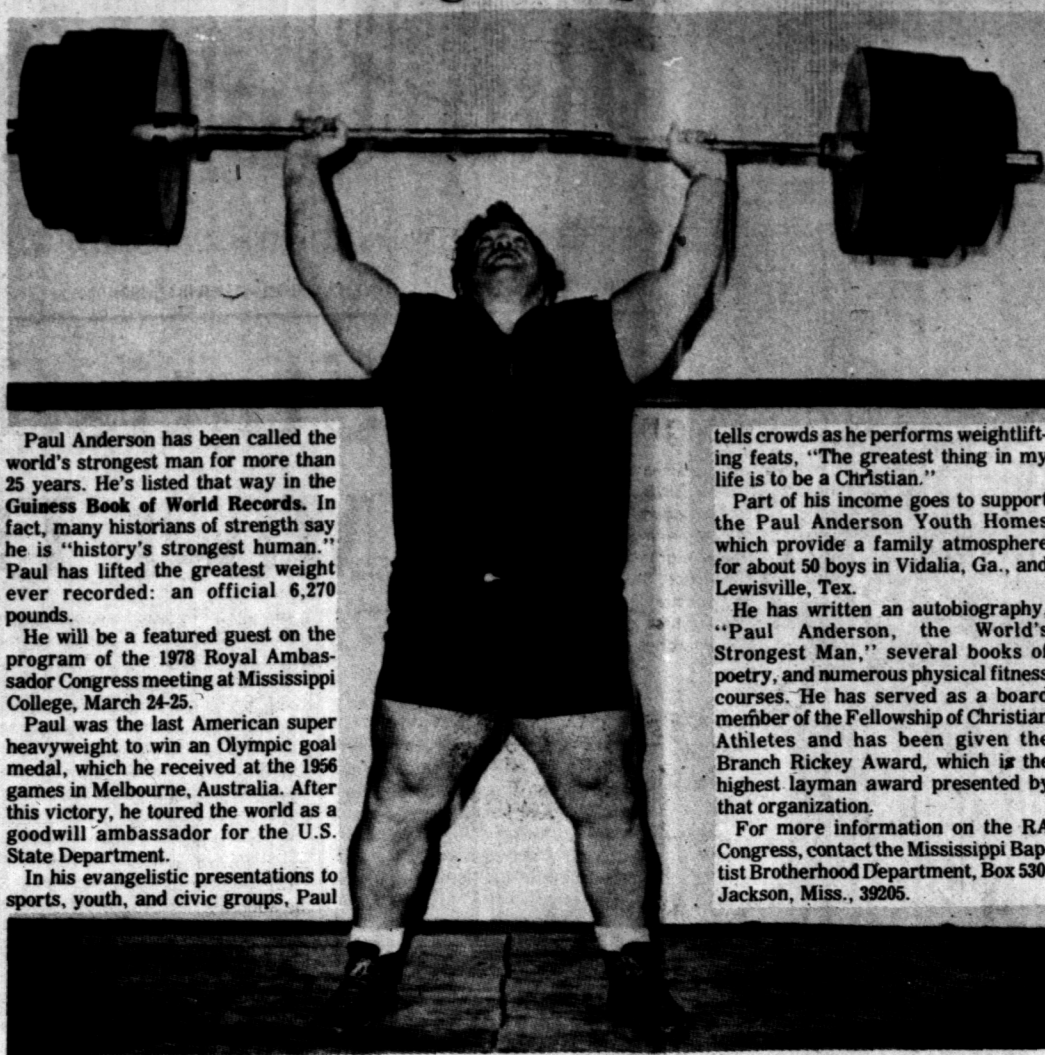
Mrs. Casteel will serve on the faculty of the Valley Baptist Academy in Harlingen as an appointed missionary of the language missions department of the board. She also has taught in Helena, Mont., and in San Juan, Puerto Rico, when she was appointed with her husband, Albert, now deceased. Her husband was pastor in Helena, Mont. before going to Puerto Rico.

The Owens will serve in Ketchum, Idaho, where he will be Christian social ministries area director for Utah.

The Richardsons will continue to live in Puerto Rico, where he will serve as church extension coordinator. Prior to appointment, Richardson, a Mississippi native, was pastor of Ceiba Baptist Church in Puerto Rico. He also has served as pastor in Florida and Mississippi.

Nashville (RNS) — Dr. Alan Walker, founder of a Christian telephone counseling service, will receive an award from the French Institute De La Vie for his pioneering work in the field. An Australian evangelist, Dr. Walker established the Life Line Telephone Ministry in Sidney in 1963 and now serves as president of Life Line International.

## World's Strongest Speaks To RAs



Paul Anderson has been called the world's strongest man for more than 25 years. He's listed that way in the Guinness Book of World Records. In fact, many historians of strength say he is "history's strongest man." Paul has lifted the greatest weight ever recorded: an official 6,270 pounds.

He will be a featured guest on the program of the 1978 Royal Ambassador Congress meeting at Mississippi College, March 24-25.

Paul was the last American super heavyweight to win an Olympic gold medal, which he received at the 1956 games in Melbourne, Australia. After this victory, he toured the world as a goodwill ambassador for the U.S. State Department.

In his evangelistic presentations to sports, youth, and civic groups, Paul

tells crowds as he performs weightlifting feats, "The greatest thing in my life is to be a Christian."

Part of his income goes to support the Paul Anderson Youth Homes which provide a family atmosphere for about 50 boys in Vidalia, Ga., and Lewisville, Tex.

He has written an autobiography, "Paul Anderson, the World's Strongest Man," several books of poetry, and numerous physical fitness courses. He has served as a board member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and has been given the Branch Rickey Award, which is the highest layman award presented by that organization.

For more information on the RA Congress, contact the Mississippi Baptist Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

## Meetings In 52 Associations To Interpret Christian Action

Christian Action will be emphasized in 52 associations in meetings scheduled for the most part on February 27 or February 28. The purpose of the seminars is to interpret the work of the Christian Action Commission and to suggest methods of involvement to those who are concerned with community morals. Current issues in the legislature affecting pornography, control of alcohol problems and similar matters will be discussed. According to J. Clark Hensley, executive director of the commission, consultants are assisting in these seminars being promoted by the commission and the directors of associational missions. The confirmed dates and places follow:

February 27 — Benton/Tippah, Ashland Church; Chickasaw, Fellowship Church; DeSoto, First, Nesbit; Grenada, Airport Church; Gulfcoast, First, Long Beach; Humphrey;

Iawamba, Baptist Student Center, Fulton; Jones, Plainway Church; Lawrence, New Hebron Church; Leake, First, Carthage; Leflore, North Greenwood Church; Lincoln, First Brookhaven; Lowndes, Immanuel Church; Marion, East Columbia Church; Newton, First, Newton; Noxubee, First, Macon; Pearl River, First, Carriere; Perry, First, New Augusta; Quitman, First, Lambert; Riverside, Clarksdale Church; Tate, First, Coldwater; Union County, Glenfield Church; Washington, Association Building, Greenville; and Yazoo, Southside Church, Yazoo City.

February 28 — Attala, Williamburg Church; Bolivar, Associational Building, Cleveland; Choctaw, Ackerman Church; Copiah, First, Crystal Springs; Covington/Jeff Davis, Associational Building, Prentiss; Franklin, Meadville Church; Greene, First, Leakesville; Holmes, First,

Lexington; Humphrey; Lamar, Baxterville Church; Lebanon, Lee, First, Tupelo; Monroe, First, Amory; Oktibbeha, Adaton Church; Panola, First, Batesville; Pontotoc, West Heights Church; Prentiss, Osborne Creek Church; Rankin, Person Church; Scott, Branch Church; Sharkey/Issaquena; Smith; Tallahatchie, Corinth Church; Walthall, New Zion Church; Warren, Bonanza Sirolo Pit, Vicksburg; Webster, First, Eupora; and Yazoo, First, Water Valley.

March 2 — Neshoba, Associational Office, Philadelphia.

March 6 — Jackson, Associational Office, Pascagoula.

March 13 — Lauderdale, Baptist Center, Meridian.

The following associations have already observed this emphasis: Carroll, Clarke, George, Hinds/Madison, Montgomery, New Choctaw, Pike, Sunflower and Wayne.

Interested pastors and lay persons are invited and encouraged to participate in these meetings.

## TV Home Bible Study Set For Premiere

FORT WORTH — Two pilot television programs for the new Southern Baptist Home Bible Study Series were taped recently in preparation for a nationwide premiere in October 1978.

Selected television stations throughout the nation will carry the Southern Baptist produced outreach effort, which is expected to reach new people for Bible study as well as give church members additional opportunity to study contemporary topics.

Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson, Miss., was the Bible teaching host on the pilot programs. A portion of each program was Pollard's interpretation and discussion of the Nature of God, with strong emphasis on heavy use of the Bible by listeners as a continual reference.

Music on the programs will be performed by well-known artists, such as Cynthia Clawson and Joe Ann Shelton, each of whom appeared on one of the pilot programs. Buryl Red, composer-conductor from New York, is in charge of planning music for the programs.

Grady C. Cothen, president of the Sunday School Board, said "There are many indications of need in this field and we hope that the churches can use it in the ministry of shut-ins, prospects and others with special needs."

"I believe that it will appeal to many people who would appreciate biblical truth applied to their present situations," Cothen continued. "I think the radio-television correspondence

Bible study concept has great possibilities for Southern Baptists."

The Home Bible Study Series is not intended to replace Bible study in Southern Baptist Sunday Schools, but is designed to be supplemental to the study efforts there. Many regular Sunday School members are expected to participate in the Home Bible Study Series because of a desire for additional Bible study. Elderly, hospitalized and home-bound persons also should benefit from the program.

The Home Bible Study Program for television is being produced jointly by two Southern Baptist Convention agencies, the Sunday School Board, Nashville, and the Radio and Television Commission here. The program sound track for the television shows will be adapted for use on radio.

Printed Bible study materials, including a curriculum guide containing four or five lessons each month will be prepared and sent free to anyone requesting them.

Individuals requesting the free monthly Bible study materials will be given the opportunity to enroll as members in the Home Bible Study Series. When a member gives permission, his or her name will be referred to a local church. It is hoped that Home Bible Study Series members will eventually become members of local churches.

Topics which will serve as monthly themes for the program in the first year include Nature of God, Nature of Man, Meaning of Salvation, Work of the Holy Spirit, Personal Growth, Family, Human Sexuality, Suffering, Loneliness, Need for Love, Prayer, and the Future — Hope or Shock.

Pilot tapes of the new series received strong support after a preview for trustees of the Sunday School Board at the semi-annual meeting in Nashville.

"This concept has a tremendous potential for reaching thousands of people for Christ," said Presnell H. Wood, trustee chairman and editor of the Baptist Standard, newspaper of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. "It's one of the finest vehicles we've had for some time."

## Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



Tokyo (RNS) — Leftist groups across Japan staged protest demonstrations (Feb. 11) against reinstatement of a national holiday commemorating the legendary descent from heaven of Emperor Hirohito's ancestors 2,638 years ago. Before World War II, the holiday — National Foundation Day — was associated with militarists. The Emperor, who has officially denied any divine origins, and the Japanese government have been under pressure from conservatives to reinstate traditions scrapped under Allied rule in 1945.

Panama City, Panama (RNS) — Anglican Bishop Festo Kivengere and Michael Cassidy ended their "Africa to Panama" mission here with a rally that attracted about 1,750 persons. The final meeting of their nine-day campaign was attended by a cross section of the population of this isthmus: from a former president of the nation to an old beggar woman, blacks and whites, enlisted men in the American military services and Panama Canal Company bureaucrats, Indians, and people who speak Spanish alongside those who speak English. The mission was supported by about 90 churches in Panama and the Canal Zone, and the cooperation was described by veteran Christian workers here as the greatest inter-church effort since Billy Graham was here for a rally 20 years ago.

London (RNS) — A new national agency for Christian books — the Religious Book Foundation — has been set up here, with Anglican Archbishop Donald Coggan of Canterbury and Cardinal George Basil Hume, OSB, Archbishop of Westminster as patrons.

Houston (RNS) — Elderly people may be able to choose "food from space" under a new meal program designed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Food technology and packaging techniques developed by the NASA Johnson Space Center to feed astronauts during space flight are being applied in a pilot program to help provide balanced meals for the elderly.

### \$2 Million Goal

## Carey Pledges Million Before Campaign Begins

William Carey College kicked off its 1978 Development Campaign on Friday night with the announcement that \$1 million of the \$2 million goal had already been pledged.

The report was given by Campaign Chairman Paul McMullan to an enthusiastic group of nearly 350 Carey College supporters who gathered on

Richmond, Va. (BP) — Faculty at the University of Richmond have urged in a resolution that the officers and trustees of the university ask controversial professor Robert Alley to resume his chairmanship of the department of religion. Alley, a tenured professor, reportedly requested transfer to chairmanship of the university's newly created area studies program following heated response from many Virginia Baptists after he told a group of atheists in an address Dec. 6 that Jesus "never really claimed to be God or to be related to him." The controversy has caused sharp debate on the Richmond campus. The faculty resolution, voted on by about half of the university's 300 faculty members, was not unanimous, although it carried clearly by a show of hands, reports indicate. A source on campus said the resolution was voted on grounds of academic freedom of a tenured professor not in an attempt to support Alley's statement on the divinity of Jesus. The trustees will deliberate on the resolution at their March 3 meeting. Heilmann, who earlier apologized for Alley's statements, said he will not comment further on the situation until the trustees meet.

Brentwood, Tenn. (BP) — The administrative committee of the Tennessee Baptist Executive Board will serve as a search committee to find a successor to Ralph Norton as executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Norton, who has held the post since Jan. 1, 1973, will retire Dec. 31, 1978. George E. Capps, associate executive director of the Southern Baptist Education Commission, Nashville, is chairman of the administrative committee, which has approved guidelines for the election of Norton's successor.

Cleveland, Tenn. (RNS) — Record numbers of new ministers — 794 men and 90 women — were added to the rolls of the Church of God (Cleveland, Tenn.) in 1977. The total number of new ministers, 884, was the largest for one year in the 92-year history of the denomination.



Cynthia Clawson, who provided special music on one of the pilot programs, talks during a break in taping with program music director Buryl Red (right) and Bible teaching host Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson.

## Piland Succeeds Washburn

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been employed with the board in Sunday School work for 44 years.

Following Piland's election by the institution's trustees, board president, Grady C. Cothen, noted that "a careful and prayerful search has gone on for three years to find a new director for the Sunday School department."

As the national leader for Southern Baptists' Sunday School movement, Piland will manage a department that employs 135 persons in editorial and promotion activities. Currently 73 quarterly and monthly Sunday School publications are produced with a combined circulation of 39,980,100. The nationwide projected enrollment for Sunday School during 1976-77 is 7,421,083.

During his years of service at Houston's First Baptist Church, Sunday School attendance has increased to between 2,400 and 2,500 persons each

week. In the early 1970's, attendance had been between 600 and 700 persons each week.

A native of Austin, Tex., he is a graduate of the University of Texas, and holds the master and doctor of religious education degrees from Southwestern Seminary.

## MRLC Meets

The Mississippi Religious Leadership Conference will hold its annual banquet at Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. James L. Travis, director of pastoral services and his staff at the Mississippi University Medical Center will present the program.

Three distinguished Mississippi religious leaders will be honored. Bishop Duncan Gray will preside.

the Hattiesburg campus for a gala Carey Appreciation Dinner.

"We're halfway to our goal and we've only just begun!" said McMullan, president of First Mississippi National Bank and two-time Carey campaign leader. He gave special gratitude to John D. Thomas, advanced gifts chairman, and to President J. Ralph Noonkester for their untiring efforts in the past month to put the campaign on an immediate road to success.

Hugh Dickens, college administrative vice-president and campaign director stated that the \$2 million will be spent for the purpose of renovating dormitories on the Hattiesburg campus, renovating the new Gulf Coast campus buildings, library development on all three campus (including the New Orleans School of Nursing) and for increased endowment funds.

It was pointed out that statistics show that the school has grown in enrollment by 135% since the last development campaign in 1973. The operating budget has increased 122%, going from \$1,800,000 to over \$4,000,000 in the past five years. Ten years ago Carey had one campus. Today there are three. Ten years ago the school offered only undergraduate work; today a large graduate program in education and in music is thriving.

"William Carey College deals with the 'holistic view of life'; that is what Christian higher education is all about," said John Claypool, featured speaker for the evening. The pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson continued, "As the product of a Christian college, I am grateful that I found, in that environment, people who understand the 'truth process' and were patient with my asking and seeking for answers."

Claypool discussed the freedom of the Christian college, by its very nature, to be as equally concerned about personal and human values as about factual information.

Featured entertainer for the dinner was Lila Noonkester, daughter of President and Mrs. Noonkester. Lila sang three selections. Guests from throughout Mississippi and from New Orleans, as well as numerous area friends and alumni, were welcomed by Noonkester.

Capetown (RNS) — One of the few media "voices" that remain for South Africa's blacks after last Fall's banning orders from the government is a Christian weekly named "The Voice." Founded in October 1976 by the South African Council of Churches and now operated by an independent agency called The Voice Ecumenical Trust, the paper has been controversial from its very first issue.



Sonny Atkins, fulltime evangelist, New Hebron, served as ACTION director for the Grays Creek Church, Hernando during the Greater Memphis Metro Reach ACTION Campaign.

The Grays Creek Church, Roger Johns, pastor, is located in a sparsely populated rural area where it was felt most of the people were related to some church. However, the church agreed to participate in the ACTION Campaign.

With an enrolment of 183 and an attendance of 122 on Enrolment Sunday — at the conclusion of enrolment week 155 were in attendance. The Task Force and Anglers had 41 persons who went to 233 homes.

There were 56 enrolled on Enrolment Sunday with a total of 143 persons enrolled during the campaign. The Task Force discovered 56 prospective families and the pastors enrolled 25 in the pastor's class.

Atkins states, "This was a most rewarding effort on the part of these people who have proper perspective on reaching people."



## Statewide ACTION Campaign Begins

"It's the smaller churches which are picking up the greatest increase," said Neil Jackson of the Baptist Sunday School Board (pictured at chalkboard). He was talking about the ACTION enrollment campaigns which the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board is aiding churches to become involved in. "It's not uncommon for a church running 100 in Sunday school to enroll 50 more," said Jackson to a group of Mississippi Baptist pastors and outreach chairmen who gathered at First Baptist Church in Forest to hear ACTION explained. ACTION, simply means that a church member invites any

person who is not already involved in Bible study on Sunday mornings to enroll in Bible study in his church.

"People have discovered they can be witnesses for Christ," said Jackson, who along with state Sunday School Department staffers, led eight interpretation conferences last week, drawing 400 persons. So far, 42 Baptist associations in Mississippi have indicated they will participate in area-wide ACTION campaigns which are being suggested for September. And at least 70 churches are planning individual involvement in ACTION.

## At Mississippi College

### Speakers Expand Theme, "Reach Out And Touch"

A week long series of special events and guest speakers marked the annual Mississippi College BSU Spiritual Enrichment Week, Feb. 13-16 on the college campus.

The Spiritual Enrichment Week theme, "Reach Out and Touch," was highlighted by three guest speakers. Margaret (Mrs. Clark) Hensley, Jackson housewife and author; Jan Daehnert, an associate of the Division of Student Work, Baptist General Convention of Tex.; and Dan Bagby, pastor of Calvary Church, Lafayette, Ind., shared speaking responsibilities for the week.

Following the opening meeting, Monday, which included an address by each of the speakers, and a presentation by the Celebration Singers, workshops were held in the Hall of Fame Room on varied topics. Bagby spoke on the need for practical involvement in the lives of others. Daehnert spoke on the cost of caring, and Mrs. Hensley addressed the issue of self image.

On Tuesday, Mrs. Hensley spoke on communication in the home. At the Valentine Banquet that evening, Bagby spoke on "Marriage Rated X." Music was furnished by First Church of Jackson.

Wednesday, Daehnert spoke in chapel on "Reaching Out — Reaching In." Mrs. Hensley spoke at a ladies luncheon on "The Young and the Restless" followed by dorm discussions later that evening. Dorm discussions included "What it means to be Committed," with Bagby; "Caring Enough to Confront," with Daehnert; and "You Don't Have to be a Star," with Mrs. Hensley.

On Thursday, Bagby spoke on "Spiritual Prostitution," followed that evening by "The Current Sexual Dilemma of College Students," with Daehnert and "Beyond Romance," a married student seminar with Bagby.

The three speakers also participated in over 30 informal classroom discussions throughout the week.

Ann Rutledge of Greenwood and Andy Taggart of Moss Point were co-chairmen for the week.



Margaret Hensley, Jackson housewife and author, spoke to women at Mississippi College during a "ladies luncheon," one of the activities marking "Spiritual Enrichment" week at the college (M.C. Photo)

## Blue Mountain Reaches \$500,000 Goal Six Months Ahead Of Time

Blue Mountain College has announced that the first priority goal of \$500,000 in its Second Century Forward Fund has been reached six months ahead of schedule.

In making the announcement, school president E. Harold Fisher said, "Support for this first phase of our development campaign came not only from Mississippi and the region, but from across the nation."

Items included in this initial effort were curriculum development, student recruitment, expansion of library holdings and building improvements.

Blue Mountain experienced a 14% rise in enrollment last Fall with recruitment for next year now in full swing.

James Bryant, BMC Director of Development, pointed out, "We are excited about reaching this first plateau

ahead of schedule and can now turn our attention to Phase II which is set at \$2.4 million over the next 8 years."

Phase II items of the development campaign include a continued strengthening of the curriculum, upgrading of the physical facilities and to private for the ongoing needs of the college.

"To accomplish this first priority goal ahead of schedule is a real tribute to the remarkable efforts of our volunteer committees around the country," President Fisher said. "In particular, Joe Jack Hurst of Jackson who chaired the campaign; Oscar Shannon of Ripley, who provided leadership in the Ripley area; Joe Guyton of Blue Mountain and Henry Whitfield of Tupelo... all of these men, along with so many others who worked to make this part of the drive a success."

"The participation from alumnae, faculty and staff is unmatched and indicates their commitment to provide a value-based education."

Bryant indicated that regional steering committees will be named in the next few weeks to coordinate Phase II of the campaign.

## Student Easter

### Retreats Set

Church Recreation Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, is sponsoring retreats for high school and college students during Easter Week at Glorieta and at Ridgecrest. Retreats will begin Thursday, March 23 with the evening meal and conclude with a sunrise service and breakfast on Sunday, March 25.

At Glorieta, Don Mattingly will be directing assisted by Phil Briggs and Rosemary Hoover. At Ridgecrest, Pogo (Frank Hart Smith) will be in charge with Jim Knott of Two Rivers Baptist in Nashville and Charles Downey of Texas assisting.

## Surveys

### Needed

Feb. 28 is the deadline for receiving the salary survey forms sent to all Mississippi Baptist church staff members by Clifton Perkins of the Mississippi Baptist Church/Minister Relations Department.

## SBC Statistics Mix; Most Decline

(Continued from page 1)

for missions climbing from 17.0 in 1976 to 17.1 in 1977."

A separate report from the Foreign Mission Board revealed that membership in overseas churches related to Southern Baptist mission work topped the 1 million mark with 1,071,922 members, a growth of 165,380. Southern Baptist missions related work also recorded 98,715 baptisms, an increase of 14,266. Overseas churches increased by 516, bringing the total to 8,533. (Baptists overseas retain their national identity instead of becoming "Southern" Baptists.)

The drop in Sunday School enrollment follows five consecutive years of gains, and directly follows an enrollment increase of 177,000 in 1975-76.

The decrease in Sunday School enrollment of 0.4 percent represented a loss of more than 27,000 members, re-

## The Missions Task

### The Genius Of The Cooperative Program

By John Alexander, Director  
The Stewardship Department

Out of the frustration and deep indebtedness following the Seventy-five Million Campaign of 1919-1924, the 1925 Future Program Committee recommended the adoption of the "Cooperative Program" of Southern Baptists. Most of the early assumptions about the Cooperative Program have remained unchanged. Baptists learned early that cooperation was essential for strong world witness. Their God-given mission has outweighed the desire for individual and congregational freedom.

Cooperative efforts served to pull Baptists together in great endeavors rather than to divide them. Baptists must believe in and cooperate with one another. Through cooperation Southern Baptists have become one of the largest and strongest Christian denominations in the world. A deep commitment to missions has compelled an intensely independent people to be also intensely cooperative.

From the beginning, Southern Baptists determined to put missions first. Southern Baptists deliberately chose to put missions first in their list of priorities.

While the Seventy-five Million Campaign received only \$58,591,913 of the \$92,000,000 that was pledged to missions, it did more for Baptists than raise money. It provided a pattern for cooperation, revealed that working together Baptists can raise a lot of money, stabilized the institutional structure of the SBC, demonstrated that Baptists will go all out for a great program of advance, established a pattern for stewardship promotion, and provided the impetus and basis for the foundation of the Cooperative Program.

What has the Cooperative Program accomplished in Southern Baptist life? James Lee Powell, Jr., says, "The Cooperative Program can be credited with some remarkable achievements:

(1) It has brought into full visibility the basic genius of the convention - type concept introduced by William B. Johnson in 1845.

(2) It has opened a door into advance planning that was closed tightly before the adoption of this type of financing.

(3) It has made Southern Baptists conscious of "first fruit" giving, rather than just a haphazard gift after a stirring sermon.

(4) It has created a single and effective financial program for every part of convention life that can be promoted uniformly.

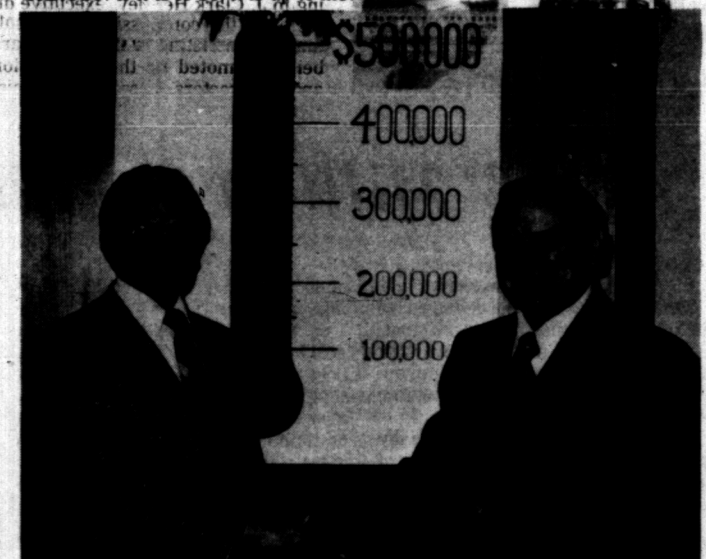
(5) It has brought a new sense of participation to every Southern Baptist in being able to share in all of the work of the denomination through undesignated giving.

(6) It has provided a new unity for Southern Baptist agencies as they have sought to work together."

Powell concludes: "These flowery words from the 1939 Executive Committee remind us not only of the genius of the founding of the Cooperative Program but also of its success to the present day."

"The Cooperative Program is the greatest step forward in Kingdom finance Southern Baptists have ever taken. It was slow and gradual in its formation. It arose out of the desires and efforts of pastors and churches to find a plan whereby all worthy denominational causes might be cared for fully and fairly without conflicting with the necessary programs and work in the churches themselves. It is believed to be sane, scriptural, comprehensive, unifying, equitable, economical, and thoroughly workable. It is based upon the assumption that all denominational causes will be included, that all agencies and institutions will cooperate in its promotion, that all pastors will represent and present all causes and seek to secure regular, proportionate and adequate support. In this way all occasions for rivalries and conflict and overlapping are removed, the offerings will come in regularly and each cause will receive and each contributing member will make fifty-two offerings a year instead of one. It is the best plan we know and it is hoped that it will increasingly receive the hearty and enthusiastic support of all our people."

Perhaps God was getting Southern Baptists ready for the BOLD MISSION THRUST. If it is to be, it is up to me!



Blue Mountain College president E. Harold Fisher (left) congratulates Oscar Shannon of Ripley, a member of the steering committee for the school's development campaign, on reaching the first priority goal of \$500,000 six months ahead of schedule. The school announced immediate plans to move into the second phase of the campaign which is set to raise \$2.4 million over the next 8 years. Funds from the campaign are being used to broaden the curriculum, expand library holdings, increase enrollment and improve buildings.

MARCH, 1978	
<b>Sunday School</b>	HOME MISSIONS DAY IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL, MARCH 12 A Sunday School Emphasis for the Church  MARCH 1 - MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL MINI WEEK(S), GULFSHORE See Gulfshore schedule, page 26
<b>Church Training</b>	CONDUCT YOUTH WEEK A special church program designed to focus on the youth of the church and to give them experience in leadership responsibilities. For complete information consult Youth Week Guide, available at the Baptist Book Store.  COVENANT FELLOWSHIP EMPHASIS During March, conduct the training program for the Covenant Fellowship Emphasis and follow through with the visitation. Available materials are on literature order forms. Information is available from the state Church Training Department.
<b>Church Music</b>	RESURRECTION SING A congregation "sermon in song" for Easter. Brochure available from state Church Music Department.  HYMN OF THE MONTH "I Know That My Redeemer Lives," Hymn #436, New Baptist Hymnal  MARCH 1 - MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR MUSIC LEADER/ADULT WEEK, GULFSHORE See Gulfshore schedule, page 26
<b>Brotherhood</b>	HOME MISSION WEEK OF PRAYER AND ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING, MARCH 5-12 Program materials can be found in January-March issue of Brotherhood Builder, Baptist Men's Handbook and Royal Ambassador age level materials. Mission grided series studies may be purchased from Baptist Book Store.
<b>Woman's Missionary Union</b>	WEEK OF PRAYER FOR HOME MISSIONS AND ANNIE ARMSTRONG OFFERING, MARCH 5-12 Program materials for week to be found in March age-level magazines while plans for churchwide participation will be found in January-March issue of Dimension magazine. Free materials such as posters, offering envelopes, prayer guides, etc. for church use mailed to WMU director in mid-January. Additional copies may be ordered from state WMU office.
<b>Evangelism</b>	EVANGELISM STUDY Study the book, The Evangelistic Church by Havlik. Available at Baptist Book Store.
<b>Stewardship</b>	REMINDERS Send quarterly report of contributions to all members. Enclose a stewardship tract and "Thank You" folder.  Show stewardship filmstrips in worship services or department assemblies.  Plan to observe Cooperative Program Day, April 16. Order materials from your state Stewardship Department.
<b>Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries</b>	MARCH 1 - MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR THE PASTOR/CHURCH PROGRAM WEEK, GULFSHORE See Gulfshore schedule, page 26.
<b>Christian Action Commission</b>	CONSIDER A FAMILY LIFE ENRICHMENT REVIVAL Write the Christian Action Commission, Baptist Building, Jackson, for planning suggestions.

## Summary Of 1977 SBC Statistics

	1976-77	1975-76	Gain or Loss	Percent
Churches	35,255	35,073	182	0.5
Total Membership	13,083,199	12,922,605	160,594	1.2
Baptisms	345,690	384,496	-38,806	-10.1
Sunday School Enroll.	7,430,931	7,458,375	-27,444	-0.4
CT Enrollment	1,778,179	1,850,406	-72,227	-3.9
WMU Enrollment	1,118,085	1,139,034	-20,949	-1.8
Brotherhood Enrollment	473,309	478,981	-5,672	-1.2
Church Music Enrollment	1,382,104	1,372,598	9,506	0.7
Total Receipts	\$1,797,139,698	\$1,645,959,837	\$151,179,861	9.2
Total Mission Gifts	\$289,372,474	\$262,373,823	\$26,998,651	10.3



# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Home Missions Week . . .

## Bold Goals Outlined

Southern Baptists have been talking about Bold Missions for almost two years now, and a big challenge for boldness is upon us. It is the Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions, and the goal this year is \$13 million. This is 21 per cent more than last year's goal, and that indeed is a step in the direction of boldness. It is, however, only about \$1 per Southern Baptist.

The Annie Armstrong Offering goes along with the annual week of prayer for home missions, set this year for March 5 to 12. The prayer is just as important as the offering.

The theme this year is "Share." The scripture passage for Bible study during the week of prayer is Romans 12:6-8.

During this time of Bold Missions

emphasis Southern Baptists are being asked to share themselves as well as their money and their prayers. We are seeking to make a Christian witness available to everyone in the world by the end of the century, and it will take many volunteers at work as well and the time of prayer and the gifts of money to get the job done.

Traditionally the home mission emphasis doesn't receive as much attention as does foreign mission emphasis. Yet the lost are just as lost in America as they are in Taiwan. The people, in many cases, where home missionaries serve have no more concept of what to do about their lost condition than do those in Taiwan. Very likely, some of the places where home missionaries serve present more possibilities of physical danger than is to be found in

Taiwan.

The first \$9,163,000 of the offering will go to take care of the basic support of 2,839 home missionaries who work in 50 states. We have them in Mississippi. Home missionaries are appointed in conjunction with state conventions and work under the direction of the state conventions.

The next \$1,837,000 will be used to finance several special projects, many of them relating to Bold Mission Thrust.

All above the \$11 million figure will be used for evangelism and for beginning new congregations.

Bold giving must be a factor in Bold Mission Thrust if the expectations of the concept are to be reached. The giving without the praying, however, will be empty.

### No Ambiguity . . .

## Trustees Serve Convention

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina seems to be at a point of conflict with the trustees of Wake Forest University, a school which the convention owns.

The conflict seems to come in relation to that little word, "owns." The trustees would seem to want to point out that the university charter says that the trustees "own and operate" the university and therefore they could do anything they would decide to do.

The conflict arose because the trustees had accepted a federal grant of \$85,000 to help build a \$300,000 greenhouse. The convention told the trustees to return the federal money since it would not "render a service," which is a convention requirement for accepting federal funds. The trustees

decided to keep the money anyway.

The Baptist Record has printed a couple of stories related to this situation, the latest being in the Jan. 19 issue.

The president of the convention, C. Mark Corts, has declared the trustees violated their charter, which says that they must operate the institution "in accordance with the policies adopted by the convention."

Pasco M. Bowman, dean of the Wake Forest law school, on the other hand, says he feels there is an ambiguity in the role of the trustees. He says while on the one hand there seems to be something that would say the trustees are subject to the will of the convention, on the other hand there is a legal norm that declares the trustees are

legally responsible for the affairs of the corporation.

There is no ambiguity, however, unless North Carolina has a trustee set up that is different from the normal concept of such matters. The convention has elected those trustees to run the school within the framework established by the convention. Whenever the trustees refuse to heed the wishes of the convention they are subject to recall at the next session of the parent body. Such would be a desperate move, but the trustees themselves could make such a move necessary.

It is difficult to imagine how trustees could feel they were performing the ministry entrusted to them when they choose to ignore the wishes of the body placing its trust in them.

### Guest Editorial

## 13 Million Baptists Can "Share"

By Carolyn Weatherford

When plans were being dreamed for Bold Mission Thrust in home missions, it was suggested that Woman's Missionary Union should set appropriately bold goals for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

This was eager to do, especially as we sensed the excited willingness of our Convention to attack missions with new determination.

We asked, "What are the bold plans for home missions that deserve a dramatic increase in the Easter Offering?"

That is when we heard for the first time the now-famous words, "Evangelize and Congregationalize." This simple strategy captured the enthusiasm of WMU leaders, just as it has all informed Southern Baptists. We could see the door opening on mass evangelism projects, communication media, and volunteer witnessing campaigns wherein we could actually share the Gospel with every American. We could see the wisdom of planting a congregation within reach of every American and of saturating key population centers with ministries and churches.

Most of all, we could see why the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions needed to stretch like a

balloon to float into new heights of mission support.

So, WMU suggested that a national goal for the Easter Offering might be a bold \$13,000,000. As it has developed, that will require a 21 percent increase over last year's offering. Any church or individual who wants to keep in steps with the challenges of Bold Mission Thrust can begin to do so by setting a target of giving 21 percent more than last year to the Annie Armstrong Offering.

We didn't suspect at goal-setting time that the \$13,000,000 goal would equal the overall number of Southern

Baptists. This is the only time in our history that we could say, "One dollar from every Baptist will reach the goal."

It would really be a great strength to home missions and to every local church if every person on our rolls were concerned enough to give at least \$1.00 to home missions.

Practically, we realize that our actual resident membership is much less than 13,000,000. In the last couple of years, the average gift per resident member has been less than \$1.05.

We know that those loyal and faithful to home missions give sacrificially

## Book Reviews

**ROAD TO RECOVERY** by Joe W. Burton (Broadman, 168 pp., \$4.95) The dramatic story of the resurgence of Southern Baptists after the Civil War, seen especially in the work of Isaac T. Lichenor, who was elected Secretary of the Home Mission Board in 1882, and served for the remainder of the century. However, the book tells of the events before 1882, and of other names sacred in Southern Baptist history, names such as Joshua Levering and Lansing Burrows. Some wondered in the period after the War if the little convention could even live, but these and other God-given leaders determined that it would, and it did, destined to become the great convention that it is today. Joe W. Burton has gone to be with his Lord, but his love for Southern Baptist history, has helped reserve that history for us, as it is one in this volume.

**PUT YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD** by Michael L. Speer (Broadman, 167 pp., \$4.95) A book for the Christian man who cares about the image he presents, here is a guide on how to dress well (even on a low budget), plus tips on grooming, physical fitness, and basic manners. It includes ideas for care of hair, hands and nails, daily grooming, and even how to pack your clothes and accessories for travel. Speer is associate director of the Southern Baptist Convention Stewardship Commission.

**WINGS OF JOY** by Joan Winmill Brown (Fleming H. Revell, \$7.95, 191 pp.) This beautiful book would make a good gift for someone. Brown has collected prose, poetry and Scripture that have carried special personal meaning for her during difficult times. Selected pieces come from great writers like Leo Tolstoy, Peter Marshall, Robert Louis Stevenson, William Shakespeare, Corrie ten Boom, and William Wordsworth. Topics included are age and youth, beauty, Bible, character, Christmas, comfort, Easter, God, and home.

**RABBONI . . . WHICH IS TO SAY, MASTER** by W. Phillip Keller (Revell, \$6.95, 320 pp.) RABBONI is the product of Keller's long years of personal study, meditation, reading and listening. The author of A SHEPHERD LOOKS AT PSALM 23 once again breathes life into the Bible accounts—taking time to examine the thoughts and motives of the characters involved. Jesus Christ in love, in truth, in power—reaches out through these pages.

much beyond ones and tens of dollars. But even if every resident member gave at least one dollar, our base of giving and our actual total would be vastly expanded. In light of the unprecedented opportunity of this year, I would like to challenge every Baptist, including those thousands who have never given before, to "Share" at least \$1.00 in home missions. To those who have been faithful in the past I would like to suggest a 21 percent Bold Mission Thrust in "Sharing."

A goal of \$13,000,000 from 13,000,000 Baptists seems an easy minimum to me. Does it to you?



## Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

The place was north Georgia and the face beside me was that of Betty Smith, office secretary in the Department of Student Work. We were returning from a writers' conference in North Carolina and on the spur of the moment decided that we would like to drive through Helen on our way back to Jackson. That Georgia town is famous because it was built to resemble a town in the Alps.

We would not have time to stop very long, and I don't really think Betty wanted to go through there as much as I did, but I insisted and we drove in that direction.

Road construction confused us and we missed the first major turn. At the next town, on the Georgia border, we looked at the map and saw a short cut to Clayton. If we could spend the night at Clayton, then it would not be far to Helen next morning.

We forgot something though. Mountain miles are a lot longer than regular miles, and the shortcut was more like 40 miles than the 20 the map said it was. By the time we got to Clayton it was nearly nine o'clock, and every hotel and motel in town was full—a doctors' convention had come to town. Hunger had by then attacked us with full force, but every restaurant we saw was closed. Round and round the town we drove until finally we spotted an old-fashioned hotel—the kind that had a wide front porch with rocking chairs. The hotel rooms were full but the dining room was still open. At least, the door of the dining room was open, but the food had been taken back to the kitchen.

The proprietor said yes she would sell us some food, and beckoned for us to follow her. She gave us a couple of clean plates and we helped ourselves to the food on the cart in the middle of a kitchen littered with pots and pans and dirty dishes.

We ate in the dining room where no one had bothered to brush the crumbs from the dirty red tablecloth. A few local residents gathered at the other tables to watch us. It might not sound like it to you, but that place was a haven for us when we were tired, and the food was delicious!

Betty suggested that we drive down the highway toward Atlanta, and stop at the next town. Then next morning we would try to find Helen. She was tired and it was my turn to drive, but just then it began to rain. I tried—I really did—but I cannot see the road

when it's raining at night. In a few miles I was so terrified of hitting someone that I stopped and told Betty I could not go on. In spite of her weariness there was nothing for her to do but drive.

At the next town, there were no motels. Or the next. Or the next. It was getting very late, and the rain was pouring. When the rain stopped, the fog closed in, and we could see neither ahead or behind. We were afraid to stop by the road and sleep, but I could not drive and Betty was nearing complete exhaustion. I had decided to ask the Lord to get us out of this mess I had gotten us into—and I expect Betty had been talking to Him, too.

At the fourth place we stopped, a very nice desk clerk, like an angel sent from heaven, offered to help. He called a motel in the next town—only six miles, he assured us—and found that they had a room—one room. They promised faithfully to save it "for two women from Jackson, Mississippi." That was the most beautiful room I have ever slept in.

We had traveled so far away from Helen that we didn't have time to go there the next day. I have not been there yet. If we had planned this trip ahead, made reservations, and studied the map, we might have seen Helen.

A lot of jobs, at home, at church, at work, don't get done, or are done in sloppy fashion, because we don't plan ahead.

## On The Moral Scene

**DRUG TRAFFIC**—"Dwindling heroin supplies have reduced the number of American addicts from 800,000 to 500,000 in the past year. . . . The decrease in imported heroin is the result of more effective control measures, especially by Mexico. . . . Since heroin is becoming less available, cocaine is rapidly developing into the drug of choice by users. In 1976 approximately 11 tons of cocaine entered the U. S. Cocaine is classified as non-addictive, but its abuse can quickly lead to death." (Parade, January 1, 1978)

## Letters To The Editor

### Tribute To A Friend

It has been a long time, about 30 swiftly-passing years, since I went to the club meeting that afternoon in the little community where my husband was pastor at the time. I had just bought my first electric stove and was looking forward to really enjoying it. This demonstration was to help many of us learn about our new appliances. "This is Miss Amanda Harding to give us a demonstration on the best and most effective use of our new appliances." I admired at once the very attractive young woman who was being introduced to our club. The interesting discussion and efficient demonstration which followed increased my admiration for her. When I got home, I showed my husband the little book of recipes (which I still have), told him about the good club meeting, and assigned Amanda to that place in my memory of nice people that I never expect to meet again.

Such a thing was not to happen, for I soon learned that she was engaged to be married to our friend of college days, Earl Kelly. We rejoiced with him in what we felt, even then, was his good fortune.

During his seminary days, we heard from them occasionally through mutual friends, and, by the time he had finished his doctorate in Louisville, we had moved to Marshall County. How glad we were to hear that our neighbor church at Holly Springs had called Dr. Earl Kelly! We knew enough about the church and its people

to feel that it was indeed a happy choice for both pastor and people.

As Amanda and I had the privilege of working together in WMU Association work, I came to see how very important it was to her that God's work should have her best. Not only that, but the young people who took part in recognition services were required to do the work to the best of their ability before they were given awards. Every program that I saw her work on was meaningful and inspiring.

Since that time our visits were brief encounters at conventions and church meetings. Those chats always meant more to me than she could ever know. She always had enjoyable things to share about mutual friends and common interests.

For months now, I have prayed that God would ease her suffering and shorten it. But, when I heard that she had gone, I cried—certainly not for Amanda—but for all who will miss her. This especially includes her wonderful family, but, also, those whose life she touched so briefly, but so meaningfully. She was my friend in the deepest meaning of the word, and I thank God for each time her life touched mine.

Virginia McGee (Mrs. B. B.)  
West, Ms.  
B. B. McGee is second vice-president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

### Montana Church

Dear Sir:  
I would like to take this time to say

Thank You for the Baptist Record that I am receiving.

I would like to share with you something that is of great importance to me of the Lord's work.

I am the interim Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Fort Benton Montana, one of the oldest towns in Montana. It was the only port where they could bring supplies from the east by water.

Southern Baptist work began in 1958 as a mission of the First Southern Baptist Church in Great Falls, Montana, but after starting the work, they soon found it difficult to support it in any way and since then the church has had a very hard time to keep its doors open. The town has approximately 2,500 people and is growing at a fair pace now; it also has a large community around it without any Southern Baptist work. With these needs I have some other burdens that I would like to share with you. First, we are in search for a man of God who would want to serve his Lord in this small town church. Next, the church has only enough money to pay the pastor \$45.00 a month for his services. In the winter months our water supply must be cut off for there is not enough money to pay the fuel bill. The congregation is afraid to expand because of the lack of funds. And last, the building is old and in much need of repairs.

May I say Thank You once again.

Jay Horne  
1813 6 Ave No  
Great Falls, Mt. 59401

### Work With Choctaws

Dear Mr. McGregor:  
We have a message of appreciation to Mississippi Baptists and trust that we might send the message through the BAPTIST RECORD.

We are in our eleventh year serving as your missionaries among the Choctaw Indians of Mississippi. The Lord just keeps on blessing and blessing. As we count our blessings, we are thankful for Mississippi Baptists whose prayer support and sustaining financial support through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, Cooperative Program and State Mission Offering is vital in making possible this ministry.

Rejoice with us, Mississippi Baptists, and join with us in praising the Lord that during 1977

... forty-five baptisms were reported by the Choctaw churches.  
... two men surrendered to the gospel ministry.  
... more than 600 were in daily average attendance in Vacation Bible Schools.  
... a new home Bible study group was started in an unchurched area and now has about 25 in weekly attendance.  
... over the past five years the Choctaw churches have had a 90% increase in Cooperative Program giving.

As we near the Week of Prayer for Home Missions we would ask Missis-

sippi Baptists to continue to mention our name when talking with the Lord.

Your missionaries,  
Dolton and Martha Haggan  
P. O. Box 265  
Phil., MS 39350

### Church In Germany

Dear Editor:  
Temple Baptist Church, Stuttgart, Germany, a Baptist church and a member of the European Baptist Convention, is seeking a pastor. Temple is an English-language church serving a congregation of American Armed Forces and civilian personnel.

We would appreciate it if you would print the following announcement in your paper:

Temple Baptist Church—Stuttgart, Germany: Member, European Baptist Convention, an English-language church, serving a congregation of American Armed Forces and civilian personnel in Germany, is seeking a pastor to arrive during the summer of 1978. For full information write: Catherine S. Rudder, Corresponding Secretary, AFOSI Detachment 7013, Stuttgart Spt Cmd Mail, APO New York 09154

There is honor in labor. Work is the medicine of the soul. It is more: it is your very life, without which you would amount to little. —Grenville Kleiser.

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## Annie Armstrong:

# The Woman And The Offering

By Debbie Baird Buie  
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Annie Armstrong is more than just a name on the home missions offering envelopes. There really was an Annie, and she was the power behind mobilizing Baptist support of home missions.

Annie Walker Armstrong was the first corresponding secretary (now called executive director) of Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention. As corresponding secretary, she led in establishing Convention-wide offerings and weeks of prayer for both foreign and home missions.

Annie was never a "pew-warming" church-goer. To her, Christian dedication meant working for her Lord to spread the gospel. Annie became interested in missions through her unwillingness to be a complacent Christian. Her mother had been involved in a woman's society on foreign missions, "Woman's Mission to Woman," and when in 1880 she heard of the needs of an Indian mission on the "frontier," Annie and her sister Alice responded

by forming a missionary society to make clothes for the Indian school children. Two Baltimore societies were formed.

In 1882 requests from the mission were so great that the two societies could not comply with them all. Annie visited Baltimore and surrounding area churches to express the need and help begin mission societies.

Annie kept in close contact with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board during this time. She and sister Alice began literature dissemination from the Maryland Baptist reading room. The Mission Rooms distributed leaflets on both home and foreign missions.

The Home Mission Board corresponding secretary, Dr. I. T. Tichenor, requested the Baltimore women's societies to help in many projects. One, a drive to acquire funds for building a Baptist church in Havana, Cuba, was begun just a few months before the founding of Woman's Missionary Union.

When WMU was established in May 1888, one of the first and major fund-

raising projects given the unified women's missions societies was "buying bricks" for the Cuban church.

Annie Armstrong was elected corresponding secretary of Woman's Missionary Union in that May 1888 meeting. Baltimore was established the central headquarters. Annie and Baltimore had a lot of missions in making. With her love for the Lord and missions, Annie brought with her first-hand knowledge of work with the Indians and missionaries on the frontier, she had worked with immigrants in the sea-port town of Baltimore and had led in teaching them English by using the Bible as textbook, and she had helped to reinforce or begin missionary societies in the black churches of Maryland.

Annie got right about the business of mission support through praying, giving, and learning about missions. Using the Baltimore Mission Rooms as a good, strong foothold, Annie led in the production of many leaflets and other literature needed to educate Southern Baptist women in missions needs.

"Brick Cards" and informational leaflets, prepared by Dr. Tichenor, were distributed by the thousands, soliciting support for the Cuban church. This was the first "fund-raising" effort of the societies now known as Woman's Missionary Union.

In 1894, WMU was made aware of a large debt owed by the Home Mission Board. Annie Armstrong proposed a week of self-denial to acquaint people with the needs on the home mission fields. The first observance was held in 1895 and the first offering, the Self-Denial Offering for Home Missions, was begun.

Miss Armstrong continued to work to organize women — just as she had done for the Indian mission children with the Baltimore women's home missionary society. She continued to learn missions, first-hand — just as she had done when she worked with immigrants and the black churches.

From 1888, when she became corresponding secretary of WMU, until 1901, Miss Armstrong paid her own travel expenses and refused salary for

her services. At one time she traveled on a mission tour over 3,300 miles in 21 days, visiting 19 places, and giving 26 speeches.

She kept a log of her journeys, noting specific needs of the missionaries and others along the frontier of missions. From these notations, women's societies were assigned a missionary or missionary family to clothe for a project. They were given sizes of the missionary, his wife, and children. Along with clothing, societies would fulfill other requests for bedclothes, blankets, shoes, books, and other supplies.

Women's societies would pack these articles in "missionary barrels" and ship them to their missionary. Women began to identify with the missionary, with missions in a deep, personal way.

In 1903, at the suggestion of the Home Mission Board, the special emphasis for home missions was changed to "Week of Prayer and Special Offering for Home Missions." Giving to and learning about missions had become less a self-denial and more a way of service for the Southern Baptist women.

In 1922 the offering became known as the "Thank Offering," and in 1933 it was named for the one who had so painstakingly supported and promoted home missions. It became the "Annie W. Armstrong Offering for Home Missions." Later the "W" was dropped, and the offering became identified with the Easter season when in 1969 it was named the "Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions."

Annie Armstrong died in 1938 at the age of 88. She had retired from WMU in 1906. The offering memorialized her and her ideals and dreams for home mission support.

The year the offering was named for Miss Armstrong, the home missions gifts totaled over \$68,000. Last year, forty-five years later, offering receipts totaled \$10,745,967.67. Cumulative receipts for home missions offering since 1907 is \$104,177,212.72.

It all began with a plan to help some Indian children, and now Indians represent but one ethnic group in the Language Missions Department. In the 1978 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions, \$3,000,000 is allocated for Language Missions. And under special projects, \$10,000 is allocated for Indian leadership training.

But Language Missions is only one of eight major divisions of funds. There is evangelism, church extension, Christian social ministries, interfaith witness, work with National Baptists, chaplaincy, and associational support.

In 1904, Miss Armstrong reported to the Home Mission Board an offering gift of 10 cents from Peter Ewing, a "full-blooded Indian." She told the Board, "The gift is so small, still I feel he should receive a receipt for it."



## Unity Earns Achievement Award

Unity Church, Greene Association, has received Distinguished Recognition in the use of the Church Training Achievement Guide. Unity Church was the first church in the state to complete all three levels this year. With an enrollment of 81 in Church Training, an average attendance of 51 was reported during the past church year. Resident church membership is 121. It was through the cooperation of the entire church family and particularly the Church Training leaders that Unity was able to achieve this recognition.

Pictured, first row, left to right: Mrs. Lurell Mixon, secretary; Mrs. Gavin Breland, director; Mrs. Linwood Turner, Preschool leader; Claude Killian, pastor. Back row: Mrs. Gayle Roberts, Children's leader; Mrs. Claude Killian, Youth leader; Mrs. Roland Neel, Adult leader. Mrs. George Perkins, a Preschool leader, is not pictured.

## Indonesians, Missionaries See New Day Of Cooperation

SEMARANG, Indonesia (BP) — After more than six years of strained relations, Indonesian Baptists and Southern Baptist missionaries are experiencing a renewed spirit of cooperation and are making strides toward better working relationships.

Decisions made at the Association of Indonesian Baptist Churches' triennial congress, held in late 1977, herald what the newly elected chairman of the association calls "a new day."

"We are laying here new foundations," said Pak Wim Theorupun, the Baptist layman and federal attorney from eastern Indonesia who was elected chairman of the association. "We will forget the past and the negative factors of it. We will show Indonesia what Baptists can do, led of God, in unity."

These words, reported in a newsletter to Southern Baptists' 117 missionaries assigned to Indonesia, gave grounds for optimism about the future of Baptist work in this Southeast Asia country. For the past six years, relationships between missionaries and many national Baptist leaders have been disrupted by disagreement over the best way to develop Baptist churches that can thrive in the Indonesian culture.

The rupture in relationships began in 1971 after the Indonesian Baptist Mission, the organization of Southern

Baptist missionaries, voted to phase out direct financial aid to Indonesian churches and to shift from residential theological training on the seminary campus in Semarang to an extension program.

The policy changes were made at the missionary's annual meeting after a mission growth survey raised serious questions about the patterns being used in starting churches. Such patterns, dependent on heavy financial subsidy, seemed to offer little possibility for winning Indonesia's 110 million unsaved people to Christ.

But a lack of understanding resulted, and relations with Indonesian church leaders gradually worsened until in 1975 the executive committee of the union voted to "freeze" all cooperation with the mission.

Much prayer and careful work has gone into attempts to mend these relationships, according to Mission Chairman Edward O. Sanders, and the fruit of these efforts came at the triennial congress held in this central Java city in November.

At that time, the congress, meeting with the theme "That They May All Be One," voted overwhelmingly to renew cooperative ties with the Indonesian Baptist Mission, according to Sanders and William N. McElrath, missionary press representative.



Members of one of the younger groups at Banglamuang Chapel, Cholburi, Thailand, get involved in learning about Jesus at Vacation Bible School. (FMB) photo by William L. Hitt.

## In Thailand

# Bible School Attendance Up After Parents Night

CHOLBURI, Thailand — When Donald V. Phlegar and his wife, the former Barbara Anne Carley of Yazoo City, Miss., began planning Vacation Bible School (VBS) for Banglamuang Chapel here, they decided they wanted to do something different, something that would involve the parents, too.

They knew some parents would come with their children, to see what their youngsters were doing, but there had been very little previous contact with these people of Muslim background. The Phlegars wanted to get to know them better.

They decided to take pictures of the children working, playing and learning at Bible school and present a slide show one evening.

The program was planned for Wednesday night of the second week. Children took letters home inviting their parents to "Parents' Night." Because the auditorium was too small for the anticipated crowd, provisions were made to meet in the church yard. The screen was a cloth mounted to the side of a large truck.

Little children sang songs they had learned at Bible school; older youngsters recited the books of the Bible; and Southern Baptist missionary Robert R. Stewart preached. Then the

slide show began. About 30 adults and 30 to 40 young people saw what their children or younger brothers and sisters had been doing every day for almost two weeks.

When the program ended, a parent who previously wouldn't even speak to the pastor told him that he was welcome to visit in his home at any time, according to Maxine Stewart, press representative.

Before "Parents' Night" 60 children

had been enrolled in VBS. The next morning 70 children showed up.

The Phlegars hope that at least part of these children will join the 30 former Bible school-goers who are now enrolled in Sunday School.

(NOTE: The Phlegars are currently serving an interim period as hostel parents for children of missionaries attending International School in Bangkok.)

## Mark 4:35-36

# Mobile Classroom Aids Ministry Among Iowans

DES MOINES, Iowa (BP) — When US-2 worker Robin Bridges, assigned by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board to two years of volunteer service in the U. S., found himself in Des Moines, he had plenty to do, but nowhere to do it.

Thousands lived in three low income government housing projects but the only facilities available to begin ministries in those areas were beyond the finances of Bridges and his supporters.

Then Bridges and his supervisor Greg Whitetree, director of Christian Social Ministries for the Iowa Southern Baptist Fellowship, hit on the idea

of a mobile classroom.

"I found an advertisement where there was a 1955 Chevrolet bus for sale," Bridges said. "The bus had been converted to a camper. When I saw it, I knew that it was exactly what we needed. It has a stove, a table and some other things, plus a big area in the back that can be used for classes."

Bridges didn't have the \$700 needed to buy the bus so he and Mike Roberts, the language missions director for Iowa, took out a personal loan for the amount.

Bridges, Whitetree, and Roberts have named their project "Other Little Ships," taken from Mark 4:35-36. They figure it will cost approximately \$3,000 by the time they have the bus licensed and equipped just the way they want it, adding a folding basketball goal on the back, and adding tarpaulins in the summer that can be unrolled from the top and sides to make several classrooms around the bus.

Bridges also hopes that the bus can be used as a craft center for senior adults in one of the housing projects. "These senior citizens are excited about the possibility," Bridges said. "They want to participate in activities, but can't because they are so far away. When I talked to the tenants association, the senior citizens representatives were excited about the possibility of pulling our bus up to their apartment complex and having a craft and activities center right there."

Bridges envisions other avenues of ministry with the bus including Sunday Schools, day care, Boy Scouts, Vacation Bible School, reading classes, friendship clubs and others.

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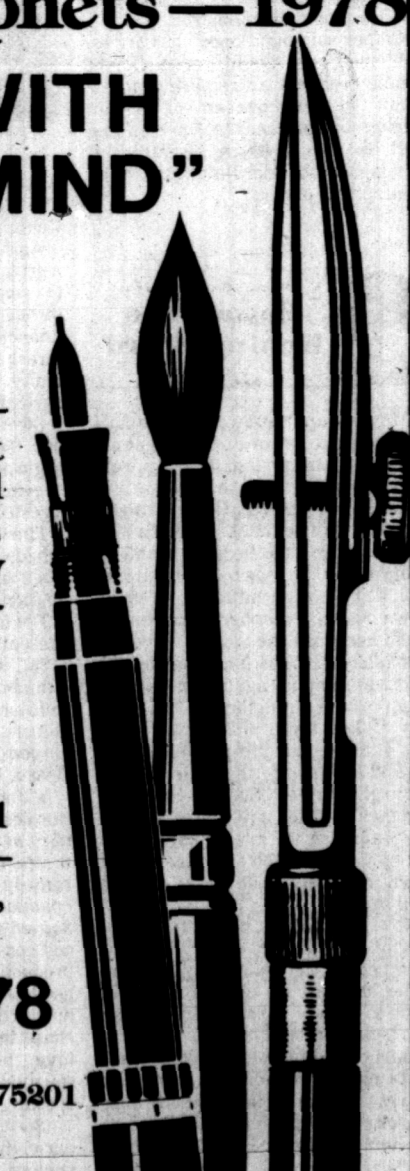
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## MC Students Attend Mission Conferences at 3 Seminaries

Mississippi College students involved in BSU activities will be participating in three student mission conferences in February and March, according to Bradley Pope, BSU director.

Six students attended the first conference at New Orleans Seminary, February 17-19, around the theme, "There's a World Out There."

The weekend conferences are held on a seminary campus and emphasis is placed on missions through speakers, music, drama and small class discussions. The weekend provides an opportunity for students to visit Southern Baptist seminaries and meet students from other colleges and universities.

Two other weekend opportunities will include a trip to Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, Feb. 24-26 around the theme, "His Purpose, My Mission," and a trip to Southwestern Seminary, March 10-12 around the theme, "Lord, Lead the Way."

Over 40 Mississippi College students will be participating in the final two trips. Students will be traveling with the First Church, Jackson, for the Texas trip.

According to Pope, there is still time to sign up for the trip to Southwestern Seminary and interested students should contact the BSU office.



# NAMES IN THE NEWS



The new Miss Carey College is Martha Waller, center, from New Orleans. A business administration major, Martha is a senior and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Waller. Her mother has been the long-time secretary to the dean at New Orleans Seminary. Susan Clark, left, of Leakesville, was named second alternate while Wanda Gettle of Hattiesburg was selected as first alternate. Martha, a regular member of Carey's singing group, the Carpenter's Wood, will represent her campus at the Miss Mississippi Pageant in Vicksburg in July.



Tom Larrimore of 1156 Winnrose, Jackson, is beginning his eighth year as full-time music evangelist. In a special service at First Church, Jackson, on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 12, he was ordained to the gospel ministry. Larrimore, a native of Mississippi, is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. He is married to the former Florence Kull, an employee of the Baptist Record, and they have three children, Ann, Jan, and Van. Van is a student at New Orleans Seminary; Ann is a senior at Callaway High School, and Jan is a student at Woodland Hills Academy.

Dan Springfield is entering full-time vocational evangelism, and on March 1 will leave the active pastorate. Sandi, his wife, will be traveling with him and doing solo work in revival efforts. Springfield is presently pastor of Ballwin Church in St. Louis, Mo. He formerly pastored the Rock Branch Church, Union; Cedar Bluff Church, and West End Church, West Point, all in Mississippi. He and Sandi graduated from Clarke College and attended Mississippi State University. They are available for meetings and can be contacted at P. O. Box 9925, Kirkwood, Mo., phone 314-821-5350.

A. Bolling Kelly III, a native of Yazoo City, has been called as pastor of First Church, Helena, Ark. He has served as pastor of the Steep Hollow Church, Bryan, Texas, since 1976. Kelly is a graduate of Mississippi State University and Southwestern Seminary. He has completed residency requirements for them Doctor of Ministry degree. While in Bryan, he was vice president of the Bryan-College Station Ministerial Association and moderator of the Creath - Brazos Baptist Association. He is married to the former Marsha McGee of Trinidad, Tex., graduate of Baylor and Southwestern.

## Mississippian In Thai King's Audience

CHACHEUNGSAO, Thailand — Three Southern Baptist missionaries were invited to join leaders of all religious faiths in an audience with the king of Thailand recently, on the eve of his 50th birthday. All three hold positions at the Thailand Baptist Mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries). Attending the occasion were Bobby L. Spear of Oklahoma, mission administrator; Max N. Alexander of Arkansas, business manager; and Fanny Starnes of Mississippi, treasurer. They were received in the visitors hall at the Chitralada Palace, residence of the royal family.

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Jim Watts, missionary to Florence, Italy, was guest speaker at the Ladies Day banquet for Lebanon Baptist Ministers and wives. Temple Church; with pastor Kermit McGregor, hosted the event. Sixty ministers and their wives attended. Watts, who served 10 years in the Baptist ministry of music, sang two solos in Italian, then spoke briefly of his work in Italy. He said he and his family plan to return to Florence in September. He is staying at the 38th Avenue Baptist Church mission home. Any local ministers interested in having Watts sing or speak at their Sunday services should contact James McLemore, pastor of 38th Avenue Baptist Church, Hattiesburg.



Adie Chatham was named for first place, most original old-fashioned costume, on Old-Fashioned Day at Center Grove Church, Meridian. Everyone present dressed old-fashioned for Baptist Men's Day on Jan. 22. The winner was given a Bible.

Alex Hopper of Shreveport, La., preacher, singer, and Christian artist, will be guest speaker at Van Winkle Church, Jackson, on Sunday, Feb. 26. Herman Milner is pastor.

Three hundred and eighty-five students have enrolled for the spring semester during registration at Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla., January 26, 27. This is an increase of 30 over the first semester and is the largest second semester increase in the history of the school. Mid-year graduation was held in the Robert G. Lee Chapel on campus. Ernest E. Saint of Meridian was among those receiving a Diploma of Theology.

Lamar Crocker, pastor of Pleasant Ridge Church, Woodland, was recently honored by the Jaycees of Houston, Ms., when they named him the Outstanding Young Religious Leader of 1977.



**YOUTH REVIVAL TEAM** — For the eighth straight year The Northeast Mississippi Junior College Baptist Student Union has organized a Youth Revival Team. From left: DONNIE PAYNE, preacher from Blue Springs; SANDY CULVER, pianist from New Albany; and TOMMY HILL, music director from Ripley. Not pictured is STEVE CARTWRIGHT, Bible study and recreational leader from Booneville. Churches desiring to have this team for a revival may call JOE COBB at the Northeast Baptist Student Center.

H. J. Rushing has accepted a position as associate to the director of missions of District Eleven in southeast Louisiana. The director is John L. Gilbert. Both are former Mississippians. Rushing was pastor in Mississippi at West Laurel, Grace Memorial, Gulfport, and Emmanuel, Vicksburg. For the past 6½ years he has been assistant pastor and interim pastor at First Church, Houma, La. He will be moving to Hammond, La. by Feb. 15.

Dr. and Mrs. David Harms, missionaries to Honduras, are the parents of a daughter born Jan. 22. They may be addressed at

Apartado 868, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Central America. He spent his early childhood in Yonkers, N. Y., and finished high school in Miami, Fla. She is the former Joyce Harrison of Franklin, Ind. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1972.

Charles Doggett, director of the Southern Baptist Convention Brotherhood Commission's Pioneer department from 1969 to 1975, has been named an editor in the youth section of the SBC Sunday School Board's church training department.

## Revival Dates

**Colonial Heights Church, Jackson:** Feb. 26 - March 1; Dudley Hall, president of Successful Christian Living Ministries of Euless, Tex., and author of several books on Christian living and church relationships, speaker; Price Harris, evangelistic singer from Shreveport, in charge of music; services on Sunday at 9:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and 7 p.m.; Wed. services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Len Turner, pastor; "New Life in Christ," revival theme.

**Green's Creek Church, Petal, Ms.,** will be Feb. 26 - Mar. 1, at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sun.; 7 p.m. during the week; evangelist, Herschel Wren, pastor of Fellowship Church in Hattiesburg; Ronnie McCall, minister of music and youth at New Augusta, singer; Ralph Kelly, pastor.

**Duncan Church:** Feb. 26 - March 3; at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Feb. 26; 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; Archie Jones, former missionary to Ecuador (now on medical leave of absence, and pastor of Robin Hood Road Church, Winston-Salem, N. C.), evangelist; Wayne Polk, minister of music, Calvary Cleveland, song leader; Billy J. Beckett, pastor.

## Meridian Doctor On Mission In India

Dr. Edward L. Moore of 4806 11 Place, Meridian, has been serving on a month-long volunteer mission in India, under direction of the Foreign Mission Board.

He left on January 25 to serve as an ophthalmologist in India, and will return Feb. 23. His wife joined him in India on Feb. 14.

## 12 Ways To Be Perfectly Miserable.

1. Think about yourself.
2. Talk about yourself.
3. Listen greedily to what people say about you.
4. Expect to be appreciated.
5. Be sensitive to slights.
6. Never forgive any criticism.
7. Trust nobody but your self.
8. Demand agreement with your own views on everything.
9. Sulk if people are not grateful to you for favors shown them.
10. Be on the lookout for a good time for yourself.
11. Shirk your duties if possible.
12. Do as little as possible for others.

—THE GLOSTER BAPTIST

## Staff Changes

Barry Edward Hardy of Clinton has accepted the call of Parkway Church, Jackson, to serve as minister of youth education effective March 1. A native Mississippian, he is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary. He will assist in the coordination of the total ministry to those in Grades 7 through college. He goes to Parkway from First Church of Clinton where he has served for three years. Bill Causey is pastor at Parkway.

Stan Henson is the new minister of music and activities at First Church of Vancleave. He is a graduate of William Carey College and is a student at New Orleans Seminary. Henson is married with one son, Felix Greer, Jr. is the pastor.

Warren Rush has accepted a call as pastor of Bethlehem Church, Jones County, effective March 1. He comes from Parkway Church, Tallahassee, Fla., where he served as pastor for 21 years. He was formerly pastor at Bethlehem for three years. He is a native of Mobile, and his wife is a native Mississippian.

Rush is a graduate of University of Alabama and Southwestern Seminary. He is author of *God's Answer to Suicide*. He was chaplain of Florida State Highway Patrol for 19 years, and originated Suicide Help-Code-A-Phone in Tallahassee.

Charles Walker is minister of music at Calvary Church, Lebanon Association. Richard White is Calvary's new associate pastor.

Edward McKeithen has resigned as pastor of Trinity Church (Wayne). He retired and moved to Mobile.

James Whittington has resigned as pastor of Emmanuel Church, Gulf Coast Association.

Harry Cottrell has resigned as pastor of East Side Church, Gulf Coast.

Paul Stevens, vice-president of student affairs at New Orleans Seminary, is interim pastor at Bay Vista Church, Gulf Coast.

Phil Harris is the new pastor at Immanuel Church (Lebanon).

Ricky Hamm has been called as minister of youth and music at Green's Creek Church, Lebanon Association.

Rob Robbins has accepted a call from Gore Springs Church, Grenada Association, as part-time minister of music. He served as a summer music missionary with the Mississippi Baptist Convention last summer. He also served one year as a music assistant in his home church, Morrison Heights, Clinton. Son of Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Robbins, of Clinton, he is a third year church music major at Mississippi College.

Steve Coleman has been called as minister of music and youth of Flora Church in Madison County. He moved from the Dry Creek Church in Rankin County. He is a junior at Mississippi College and his wife, the former Jennie Bryant, received her degree from Mississippi College at the end of last semester.

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## Group Named To Pick Fisher Successor

NASHVILLE (BP) — Daniel R. Grant, president of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., has been named chairman of a seven-person search committee to find a successor to Ben C. Fisher, who will take early retirement Sept. 30 as executive director - treasurer of the Southern Baptist Education Commission.

Education Commission chairman, George E. Bagley, executive secretary of the Alabama Baptist State Convention, also named J. M. Boswell, president of Cumberland College, Williamsburg, Ky.; John E. Johns, president of Furman University, Greenville, S. C.; Tom J. Madden, director of the convention ministries division, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood; and James L. Sells, president of Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, Mo. Bagley will serve as an ex officio member of the committee.

Fisher, who will be 63 in May, will announce retirement plans at a later date.

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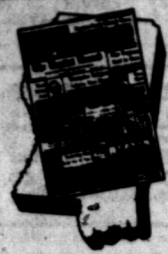
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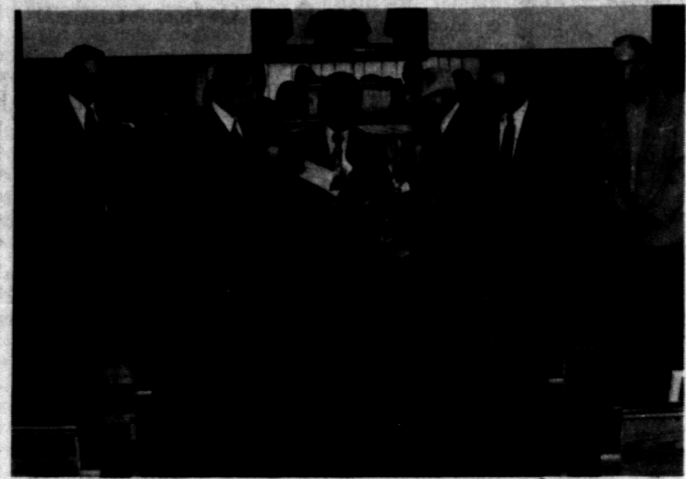


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## Just For The Record



WALLERVILLE CHURCH, Route 1, New Albany, has burned a note, after being in the new church plant one year. Left to right are the building committee, David Coleman; Houston Richey holding the burning note; Horace Steward lighting the note. (Steward is also church treasurer); Devon Freeman and Duncan Gates; H. Bryan Abel, pastor, holding the tray. Church members gave \$55,000 last year to make their church debt free. Plans are being formulated for an additional educational building and family life center. Pastor Abel celebrated his first year of service with the church on Christmas day.



RIVERPORT CHURCH, Greenville, set a goal for \$300 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and reached it within ten minutes after the goal was announced in Sunday School. On her way from Sunday School to the worship service the WMU director, Jean Tullios, was handed \$190, and then within ten minutes, \$136 more had been given. The whole world map with 60 lights, each for \$5, was turned on immediately. The RA and GA organizations, shown above, gave \$20 each. M. E. Perry is the pastor.

It is only in literature that coincidences seem unnatural — Robert Lynd.

It is better to be alone than among bores. — Montaigne

## Carter Announces 1979 Conference On Families

WASHINGTON (BP) — President Jimmy Carter announced a White House Conference on Families, Dec. 9-13, 1979, in Washington, and Congress has held two days of hearings to review plans for the event.

Original plans for a White House Conference on Families were projected during Carter's presidential campaign. He announced his intention for such a conference in a speech to the National Conference of Catholic Charities in Denver, Oct. 4, 1976.

In his recent official announcement, Carter explained: "The main purpose of this White House conference will be to examine the strengths of American

GOLDIE HARBOUR APPRECIATION DAY was Sunday, Dec. 4, at the Elam Church, Yalobusha Association. Mrs. Harbour, left, was surprised when her church presented her with a \$50 gift certificate and a Christmas flower. B. B. Brewer, right, presented the gift with words of appreciation for over 20 years of dedicated service as church pianist. Mrs. Harbour was also presented a keepsake by her pastor and his wife, Billy and Ann McDaniel.



First Church of Vancleave has given \$1,070 for the 1977 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. The goal had been set at \$1,000. The 1977 Lottie Moon Offering is the largest ever given in the history of the church. Felix V. Greer, Jr. is the pastor.

Angwin, Calif. (RNS) — Pacific Union College, a Seventh Day Adventist school here, has established a Greek Manuscript Research Center for the classification of microfilmed copies of original Greek texts.

families, the difficulties they face, and the ways in which family life is affected by public policies.

"The conference will examine the important effects that the world of work, the mass media, the court system, private institutions, and other major facets of our society have on American families," he continued.

Angwin, Calif. (RNS) — Pacific Union College, a Seventh Day Adventist school here, has established a Greek Manuscript Research Center for the classification of microfilmed copies of original Greek texts.

## Life and Work Lesson Martyr Or Savior?

By Bill Duncan, Long Beach, First John 18:1-4

As we study the next three lessons from John, our hearts should be filled with gratitude, wonder, and praise. The last few days of the life of Jesus Christ relate the details of His arrest, trial, mockery and death. This reveals what might be expected to happen to His followers. The servant is no greater than his master.

John gives a simple, factual account of what occurred. The arrest must have been a very humiliating experience. If it is hard for us to accept, how hard it must have been for God. His betrayal to the officers of the law was by one of His chosen men — the crowning humiliation of all. But look at the composure of our Lord. Clearly He was in charge. Jesus permitted Himself to be arrested and arraigned like a common criminal.

Was Jesus a martyr? Yes, if you believe that He died for a cause and did not desert or deny His cause. In my lifetime, I have seen so many die needlessly. There have been those who had great courage and devotion. These have inspired us to loyalty for the best.

Jesus Christ was more than a martyr. He died for a cause — the salvation of all men. As the Savior of the world, He died in our place. But we worship Him as Lord. His death was more than a simple martyrdom. The

death of Jesus Christ was crucial to the whole creation. Christ's death was not only the most selfless of all deaths, it was all inclusive — "He died for all."

### The Betrayal

Although Jesus knew He was on the verge of betrayal, He continued doing the usual things. When He had completed His teaching, He took His disciples with Him and went to a garden for rest and prayer.

What was the motive of Judas for betraying Jesus? It is suggested that the motive was a monetary gain. John says he was a thief (12:6). For a double handful of money, he betrayed Jesus into the hands of the enemy.

Why was Judas' betrayal so important? The Jewish authorities were fearful of the popularity that Jesus had so they hoped to arrest Him in an isolated place away from the crowds. Judas had to help the authorities arrest Jesus without a fight. However, the authorities brought an armed force. John said a company of soldiers, the temple police, and Pharisees came with lanterns, torches and weapons. They felt that they needed an army to reduce Him to submission and to ensure His capture.

Instead of hiding, Jesus stepped out and said, "Who are you looking for?" "Jesus of Nazareth," they said. He answered, "I am He." His calm announcement had a most unusual effect upon these Roman soldiers. They

stepped backwards and fell to the ground.

Judas was not in control. Jesus was. Jesus knew all things. He permitted what happened to Him to take place. Jesus even helped His enemies arrest Him. He chose to die.

### The Disciples' Reaction

Jesus encouraged the authorities to allow the disciples to go free. He showed His protective love for these in their need. Thus we see the control of Jesus in the situation. Jesus made the freedom of His followers the condition of His surrender.

At that moment Peter rushed forward to defend the Lord. He took His sword and hit the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. But Jesus turned to Peter and gave him a word of restraint. Jesus refused deliverance.

Jesus had said that when the time came for His death He would lay down His life. He refused to accept any deliverance, thereby yielding His life. Jesus had no intention of an armed rebellion.

Peter would soon deny his Lord, but in that moment he was prepared to take on hundreds all alone for the sake of Christ. We may talk of the failure of Peter, but at that moment we see the sublime courage.

### The Trials

The examination before Annas was a mockery of justice. Annas was the notorious former high priest whose



Guy Reedy, pastor of First Church, Water Valley, and Mrs. Reedy were honored by the church members with a reception on January 29. It was the eighth anniversary of Reedy's pastorate of the church. More than 300 members and friends came through the line to greet and congratulate them. The Reedys are pictured with the silver punch service presented by the congregation.

A doctor is the only man who keeps right on getting paid whether his work is satisfactory or not.

## Americans United Pick 10 Top Church-State Stories

SILVER SPRING, Md. (BP) — The U. S. Supreme Court ruling in June that states cannot constitutionally aid parochial schools with field trip transportation or loans of instructional equipment was the top church-state story of 1977, according to the staffs of Americans United for Separation of Church and State and Church & State Magazine here.

The other significant stories in the Americans United top 10 were:

(2) A massive new campaign launched in Congress to get federal aid to parochial schools via tuition reimbursement grants and income tax credits (the Packwood-Moynihan bill).

(3) Resolutions by nine state legislatures requesting Congress to call a constitutional convention to amend the Constitution to outlaw abortion.

(4) Denominational groups in Michigan campaigning to petition to referendum in 1978 a proposed amendment to the state constitution to provide full public funding for parochial schools under a voucher plan.

(5) Transcendental Meditation

(TM) found by a New Jersey federal court to be a substantially religious movement, and its teaching and promotion ordered banned from public schools.

(6) A federal appeals court ruling that the National Labor Relations Board has no jurisdiction over Catholic schools since they are religious institutions. The Supreme Court is being asked to settle the controversy.

(7) President Carter naming a "personal presidential envoy" to the Vatican, while efforts in Congress to pave the way for upgrading the envoy to ambassador rank were defeated.

(8) The First World Congress on Religious Liberty held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, in March.

(9) The October Supreme Court affirmation of lower federal court rulings favorable to state aid for sectarian colleges.

(10) A federal district court in Rhode Island ruling in March that tax paid transportation services for parochial schools could not go beyond those provided to public schools.

## Devotional

### Our Hands

By Evie Landrum Goodrich, Clinton

"What is that in thine hand?" (Exodus 4:2)

Ages ago this very pertinent question was asked of Moses when he was making excuses about doing a special task for God.

Moses had a rod in his hands and God told him to cast it on the ground. When he did, the rod became a serpent; then God told him to pick it up. When he did so it became a rod again.

As Moses went through other tests he was helped by God's promises. God would go with him and give him words to speak as he did what God wanted him to do.

I once heard of an elderly woman who was deprived of many good things of life, but who was a faithful Christian.

One Sunday she heard her pastor speak on this subject, "What is in your Hand?"

She went home and meditated on what she had heard, and then she looked at her hands. They were wrinkled and shaky, but she said, "My pastor told us that each one holds something in our hands and can be used of God if we would just give it to Him."

She looked out of her window and she saw her flower beds. The pansies were in full bloom. She immediately thought of what she could do: She copied Bible verses and tied each one to a small bouquet of pansies.

To a banker who had recently lost his wife she gave a comforting verse and flowers.

Also she visited sick people and gave them some appropriate promises and flowers.

When the woman returned home, her heart was rejoicing because she did hold something in her hands which she could offer to God.

How about pausing a minute to find out what is in your life and hands that could glorify God this day!

(Note: The writer is the widow of A. L. Goodrich, a former editor of the Baptist Record.)

## Off The Record

The great Arturo Toscanini was known for his ability to conduct operas from memory, without using the score. He was conducting "Lohengrin" one evening when a critic, standing in the wings, commented to a stagehand that he could distinctly see the maestro was busily turning the pages of a score as he conducted! The stagehand was quick to tell him that that was actually the score for "Carmen" which he was brushing up on for the next evening's performance! — Funny Funny World.

Old Doc Jones had a work schedule on Wednesdays that he followed to a tee.

Wedding bells did break up "that old gang of mine" but they are getting together again now, of evenings, down at the corner Laundromat. — Press Journal, Vero Beach, Fla.

Said the kind old lady to the Internal Revenue clerk: "I do hope you'll give my money to some nice country."

## Uniform Lesson

## Trusting In God

### I. The Person — Verse 1a.

The Lord is like a shepherd. The metaphor of a shepherd is often used in relation to the Lord (Isaiah 40:11; John 10:11; Hebrews 13:20; 1 Peter 2:25). What a shepherd would do for sheep, the Lord does for the believer. He is a Christian's guide, protector and friend.

There was a relationship between the psalmist and the Shepherd — Lord.



David declared, "The Lord is my shepherd." The Lord was not just a shepherd. The psalmist spoke of his own personal relationship to the Lord. All that David wrote in the verses that follow in this psalm was true of him because the Lord was his shepherd.

### II. The Provisions — Verses 1b-3.

The Shepherd-Lord is the provider (verses 1b-2). It was the shepherd's responsibility to see to it that the sheep's needs were fully met. When David said, "I do not want," he did not mean that all his desires would be met, but all his needs. A person may well desire what he does not need. Instead, the word "want" refers to an unmet need. The completeness of this provision is described in the conduct of lying down in green pastures (verse 2). Sheep will not lie down if they are not satisfied and water made safe and still for drinking by damming a stream.

The Shepherd-Lord restores the sheep (verse 3a). The idea in this statement may be reviving the life, however it probably refers to the shepherd's act of restoring a wandering sheep. David knew personally that the Lord was faithful in this regard. He wrote, "He restores my soul." This is a cause for joy. The Lord will not discard one though he wanders away in sin anymore than a shepherd would fail to seek and recover a wandering or lost sheep (Matthew 18:10-14; Luke 15:3-7).

The Shepherd-Lord guides the sheep. Sheep are dependent on the shepherd in so many ways, and one is for leadership. Sheep have weak eyes and their vision is limited to about fifteen or twenty yards. The shepherd would be acquainted with the right paths and thus would lead the sheep along those paths. In a similar way the Lord leads His people. He does not say to the Christian, "There is the way, go travel it." Instead He says, "Here is the way, follow Me." Because of who He is one can follow with confidence knowing He leads in the path of righteousness.

### III. The Protection — Verse 4.

A person must walk the valleys of life at times. "The valley of the shadow of death" is a valley of deep darkness or shadows. It is not just a place of death but any place of danger. In Palestine there are ravines where danger lurks. The danger could be in

the form of a beast, a robber or unsure footing. Thus the danger was a potential disaster. That is what the word "evil" means. It speaks of harm.

Even though one must often walk in the valley of life, the Lord protects in the valley. A threefold comfort is stated in verse 4. First, there is the comfort of the Lord's presence for He is with us in the valleys. Second, there is the comfort of the completed journey for He promises to lead us through the valley, not just into it. Third, there is the comfort of the shepherd's equipment. The rod was used to defend the sheep from any predator and the staff served to rescue a sheep which fell into a crevice. Thus a Christian does not need to fear the evils in the valleys of life. No matter how deep and dark these may be the Lord is with us to protect.

### IV. The Prospect — Verses 5-6.

Some believe the psalmist mixed his metaphors in this psalm. There are those who see the Lord as the host and man as the guest in this section of the psalm. However, the shepherd-sheep metaphor can be seen in these last two verses.

The shepherd makes preparations (verse 5). If no suitable grazing land could be found, the shepherd would spread cloth on the ground and put food on it kept for such an emergency. And if a grazing area had poisonous weeds and briars growing in it, the shepherd would gather and burn them. Thus he literally prepared a table for his sheep. The anointing and cup refers to the application of oil to cuts and bruises as well as giving tired sheep water to drink from the shepherd's cup. In the presence of life's enemies the believer has the daily prospect of the Lord's loving care.

Furthermore, there is the prospect of the Lord's house. The psalmist's hope was not for some temporal fold to which the shepherd would take the sheep, but "the house of the Lord." This was not the temple in Jerusalem, but God's eternal house. The Lord's "goodness and mercy" (loving kindness) would guard him like sheep dogs until the journey was over. As believers, we are going home! It is a home provided by the Lord. Come what may, the Christian has the prospect of dwelling in the house of the Lord forever.